

JOHN INNES HORTICULTURAL INSTITUTION

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20/9/48

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

I am since some time interested in bacterial genetics, and was planning to work in the research line you <sup>have</sup> opened with your studies of recombination ; recently I had the good luck of being offered by Prof. R.A. Fisher to ~~start~~ this kind of work in his Department at Cambridge.

I hope, therefore, to be able to begin work, as soon as a laboratory will be ready. In the meanwhile I would like to ask you some informations. I should very much like to remain in touch with you, as possible by mail, during this kind of work; and also with other people working on the same subject. I saw the recent paper by Stone and coworkers, and heard of Dr. Szilard of Chicago.

I have not exact plans at the moment, but I think that anyhow, it could save me long time if I could have your strains of coli K 12 and the multiple mutants you used, and <sup>know</sup> your method of storing them. Prof. Fisher is interested especially in the study of multiple crossing-over, and <sup>hopes</sup> that E. coli will prove a good material. Having no direct <sup>in that particular kind of work</sup> experience, I have no idea whether the technical difficulties will prove themselves to be too high.

At any case I should be very grateful if I could have your reprints and remain in contact with you about my future experimental results.

At the moment I am working with Dr. Mather with a Research Fellowship. I am enclosing two english short papers of mine.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Yours sincerely

*Luigi Cavalli*

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